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#### 4-H REPORT TO THE NATION

Six representative 4-H Club members are in Washington, D. C., March 6 to 9 to make the "4-H Report to the Nation," summarizing activities and accomplishments of the more than 2 million 4-H Club members in the 48 States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Their report will also recognize the important contributions of local adult voluntary leaders, who guide the individual clubs. More than 300,000 persons serve as the local leaders.

The report states that 4-H Club work is dedicated to character development and citizenship training, as well as to spreading agricultural and home economics information. Members get "grass roots" training in democratic procedures, through their participation in clubs which plan their own programs and conduct their own affairs through elected officers.

Seventy-four percent of the members came from farm homes and 26 percent from other homes, many of them located in towns or in part-time farming areas near cities. This increasing number of members from nonfarm homes reflects the Nation's changing pattern toward smaller number of farmers needed to produce necessary food and fiber.

Every 4-H Club member has at least one farm and home project. It would take a list of some 40 different projects to cover even the most common ones. The combined accomplishments of the more than 2 million members shown by their compiled reports add up to amazing figures--a million and a quarter acres of crops and gardens, millions of poultry or quarts of food canned or frozen, millions of animals raised, or clothing or home furnishings articles made--to name just a few.

In addition to their project work, 4-H Clubs plan and conduct a variety of activities, which involve working and sharing together to accomplish a need they see for themselves or their community. Each club selects such things as health, safety, conservation, music, drama, and recreation--on which they work together for community service, for wholesome fun, and for developing talents and interests.

The experiences of camping were shared by 310,000 members last year. Camps give the member knowledge in nature lore and conservation, plus fellowship and leadership experiences.

Tomorrow's leaders, trained the 4-H way, will be able to put their ideas across because they have had experience in conducting meetings and in motivating fellow Club members. For most members, this happens at regular 4-H meetings. For others, there is additional opportunity to enter special 4-H public speaking activities and participate in discussions at county, district, and State events.

Many countries in widely separated areas of the world have taken all or parts of the 4-H plan and adapted it to their own conditions. Sometimes it is known by the familiar 4-H name and insignia, or translated into something quite similar such as the 5-C Clubs of Cuba, or the 5-V Clubs of Venezuela.

The International Farm Youth Exchange project has continued to make significant growth in size and scope, with 117 American youth going to 36 countries and 133 young people from 31 countries coming here. One of the delegates in Washington this week has entertained seven youth leaders from other lands in her own home.

